

**ELA TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
JUNE 10, 2004
7:30P.M.
Village of Lake Zurich
Meeting Board Room
70 East Main Street
Lake Zurich, IL.
Approved 7-08-04**

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:55.

2. Board Roll Call

Present: Supervisor Tinerella, Clerk Prouty, Trustees Black, Burch, Knudtson, and Sullivan. Also Present was the Assessor Hoffman, Highway Commissioner Kruckenberg, Senior Director Neuschel and the new Social Worker Kostner.

3. Pledge Of Allegiance

The Board led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Public Comment

Dennis Abbott a life long resident of Ela Township.

Mr. Abbott stated that at the Annual Town Meeting the Sports Organization wanted the Ela Township to take the money that been put aside to buy a park and use it to complete Hawthorn Woods Park. And Supervisor you stated that and you never stated that there was any opposition to doing that. I want to say, "myself and a lot of other people in this Township are against doing this." That money belongs to the Ela Township taxpayers.

Mr. Abbott wanted to know why does the Supervisor harass the Highway Commissioner? The Supervisor stated that it was her job to review and audit financing and if that meant asking questions, so be it.

Mr. Abbott stated, go ahead and ask the questions but don't try to change the way the man is doing his job, because the Highway Commissioner and the rest of the Board are doing their jobs, and the Supervisor is not.

Assessor Hoffman went to the podium and stated that at the Annual Town Meeting it was discuss and decided to have a moment of silence at every Board meeting for our men and women overseas who are losing their life to insure us the freedoms that we enjoy every day and that has not been done since it was talked about at the meeting and also maybe we could observe a moment of silence for our President Ronald Wilson Reagan demise.

At this time the Ela Township Board and audience bowed their heads in a moment of Silence in honor of the passing of United States fortieth President Ronald Wilson Reagan.

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes: 5-13-04

Trustee Burch's motion to approve the Meeting Minutes from 5-13-04, seconded by Trustee Sullivan. Roll Call: Trustees Burch, Sullivan, Knudtson, Black, and Supervisor Tinerella all voted aye and the Motion carried 5 to 0.

6. Approval of Disbursement Audit: 5/13/04-6/03/04-6/04/04-6/09/04

<u>General Town Fund</u>	<u>\$123,616.43</u>
<u>General Assistance</u>	<u>\$3,347.18</u>
<u>General road Fund</u>	<u>\$22,017.19</u>
<u>Permanent Road Fund</u>	<u>\$24,784.04</u>
<u>Park Maintenance</u>	<u>\$122.44</u>

Total Expenditures **\$173,887.28**

Trustee Burch's motion to approve the Board audit for 5/13/04 to 6/09/04, seconded by Trustee Sullivan. Roll Call: Trustees Burch, Sullivan, Knudtson, Black, and Supervisor Tinerella all voted aye and the motion carried 5 to 0.

7. Monthly Updates from Elected Officials (Township Supervisor, Clerk, Assessor, Highway Commissioner, Trustees) and Department Heads (Senior Director, Youth Director, Social Worker, and Bus Service) Supervisor's Report-Tinerella

Still have one active General Assistance case and this is the third month of assistance. Even after the \$350,000 General Assistance Fund transfer last year there is still \$40,000 in that fund. The levy has been reduced to zero and in the coming year all the interest will be posted the General Town Fund. We are still looking for people who need General Assistance and there will be more information about this in the Newsletter, this money can only be used for general Assistance.

1. Had a Girl Scout Troop project (six girls) of planting flowers at the Town Hall.
2. Increased activity in the lending closet. At this time Township Attorney Scott Puma suggested that the Township should have a waiver for the lending closet clients to sign.

Assessor's Report-Hoffman

Have a part-time employee in the office mainly to cover for the full-time employees when they take their vacations.

We are in the process of assessing the 2004 assessments.

There will be another part-time employee coming later.

The law requires that every four years that every parcel in the Township must be reviewed, so we have put the Township in quarter sections and this part-time employee will be helping to accomplish this.

Highway Commissioner' Report-Kruckenberg

The Highway Commissioner discussed a water problem on Valley Road in Forest Lake.

He is hoping to get some easement put in to relieve the flooding this project will cost approximately \$180,000. This has not been budgeted and will probably hunt for money with grants or complete the project in stages.

Also have a broken tile on Lakewood and Midlothian Roads this has flooded about five acres.

This tile is along the State right away, but the County will not replace it or maintain it, as there was not a permit issued for it and also this was put in about 85 years ago.

Buses are running fine and the rider ship is up.

New employee Joanne is doing a fine job in the office.

We have a great staff in the Highway and bus Department.

Supervisor Tinerella had a question on the rider ship on the buses.

Upon looking at the Southwest and Ela bus reports from January through May. The numbers are down compared to 2003.

Highway Commissioner Kruckenberg replied that the buses are filling up quickly every week and we have turned away people. One of our biggest problems is that our riders are making three to five stops on their initial call.

Trustee inquired about the weather and if this has anything to do with a lower bus rider-ship?

The Highway Commissioner replied that it could be the winter and it is down a little bit compared to last year and usually the early months the rides are down and it'll start to pick up.

Supervisor Tinerella wanted to put this problem in perspective for example last year for the month of May there was 2459 rides and this year in May we had 1794 and this is almost six hundred rides less.

Pam Saubert (bus driver) stated that the numbers that were read were incorrect.

Trustee Burch stated that he had received a call from a sweet ninety year old young lady that rides the bus all the time and how happy she is with her bus driver and he was sure that Pam Saubert would know who this lady was. She was afraid that she would be losing her bus driver.

Highway Commissioner stated that one of the other problems that we are having other than the three or five stops for two dollars. There are a lot of elderly people moving back in with their kids and this has created the sandwich situation of college kids and seniors and the resident family in between. This bus service is a great service that the Township is providing but it's expensive to run and last year we bused over 28,000 rides and without this service these people would be stranded. We do not make money busing people and this is a service not a money maker.

Supervisor Tinerella stated that how is it that the rides are going up and the revenues are going down? And I suggest that we get together and compare the numbers. I have five months of data and it is getting worst. And if we have less rides, so our labor should be down.

Highway Commissioner stated that the Supervisor was not looking at the whole picture.

Trustee Sullivan stated that as long as the bus drivers were in attendance and they all get up early to drive the buses and I have studied the e-mails and letters and your numbers are wrong. He suggested we move up agenda item 15 on the agenda.

Trustee Burch's motion to move Agenda item 15 up on the Agenda, seconded by Trustee Sullivan. Roll Call: Trustees Burch, Sullivan, Black, and Knudtson, all voted aye and the motion carried 4 to 0 and one abstention. Supervisor Tinerella abstained.

15. Bus Service-review and discuss last year's driver expenses which occurred and discuss ideas that could allow same level of service with less overtime.

Trustee Black stated that the main thing that we keep forgetting is that this is a service not a money making project. This is a service for seniors, handicap, physically and mentally challenge and seniors that can't drive and this is a service that we are providing for these people have the least amount of money and they need this service.

Trustee Black stated that after looking at the audit report and according to the documents the Bus System came in \$39,000 under budget-and they commented that the records keeping has improved. So I don't understand this agenda item and who put this on the agenda and the Supervisor replied that she had put it on the agenda.

Trustee Black asked if the Board was aware that there was a problem with the information reported from the Supervisor's office to PACE.

Information from the bus drivers was misreported so the data from the previous year is not accurate and I do not think it can be validly compared with the accurate data we have now and she would not rush into any conclusions based on inaccurate data from the past years. If the Board wants more details of the past problems, let's put this discussion off to another time and let's get down to business and pass the budget before the June 30th, 2004 deadline.

Supervisor Tinerella saw no need in moving up agenda item 15 as she now understands why rider-ship is down and revenues are up, mainly because of clients making more than one stop after paying only one fee.

At this time the Highway Commissioner had a statement that he and his staff had prepared to answer to the Board on all the questions that were being asked about the bus service since before and after this bus service was placed under his control.

The Highway Commissioner asked that this three page statement be added to the minutes for the records.

Trustee Burch's motion that this discussion on the bus service be dropped immediately and that this Board gets on with Township business and there will be no more correspondence between the Supervisor or any of us until this bus system is broken, seconded by Trustee Knudtson.. Roll Call: Trustees Black, Burch, Knudtson and Sullivan voted aye and the motion carried 4 to 1. Supervisor Tinerella voted nay.

Bus Driver Saubert talked about averages of the bus rides and more than one stop per rider.

Supervisor Tinerella suggested a policy statement should be made on how we charge for rides.

Trustee Burch stated there can not be a policy made for a public service such as the bus service. This is a service and not a profit making project.

Trustee Knudtson's motion to tabled this agenda item indefinitely and if there is problems with the bus that the Supervisor needs to address that she take them to Trustee Black who has been identified by the Board as the go between person and if Trustee Black feels that this needs to be brought back on the agenda and than Trustee Black can request that. Second, Trustee Knudtson requested that reports be limited from Highway Commissioner office to those that are required by Pace and make a copy and send it to Supervisor Tinerella and Trustee Black. And we don't need Nora to be spending her time on her vacation answering the report that the Highway Commissioner read, seconded by Trustee Sullivan. And the bus department should be able to deposit the bus money without going through the Township office. Roll Call: Trustees Black, Burch, Knudtson and Sullivan all voted aye and the motion carried 4 to 1. Supervisor Tinerella voted nay, and she added that she would have to check with the auditors on if the Bus Department can deposit the revenue from the bus service.

Supervisor Tinerella stated that we will go through and for the record it will be known, base on what is in the Highway Commissioner's memo and we will present the other side of the story. We don't have to bring this back in a Board meeting but the facts will be known. And the other thing is the suggestion that Highway Commissioner brought up about the Board's decision of revisiting the policy of how the Township charge bus drivers will be on next month's agenda.

At this time the Board returned to finish monthly updates from Elected Officials.

Trustees Reports-Trustee Black-Youth and Family Services

Trustee Black stated that she was please to report that Susan Kostner started working as our social worker on June 3rd, 2004. She is setting up her office in the Folgias YMCA in one of the offices formally used by OMNI Youth Services. A cell phone and land line have been ordered for Susan but they are not yet connected. Hold off calling Susan until her phones are hooked up.

A computer, printer, and PDA have been purchase for use by the Social worker. Bills for that equipment were included in this month's audit for approval.

Lake County is hosting a meeting on June 14, 2004 at 7:30a.m. in Gurnee to discuss proposed changes for funding the RTA. Since Ela Township operates within the PACE bus service system, I plan to attend this meeting to learn how to best to maintain the level of funding now provided to the Township under the PACE program.

Trustee Black attended the Ela Divas, a chapter of the Red Hat Society, which is part of the Ela Senior Program. This group meets once a month and is devoted to having fun. Trustee

Black can attest that the Ela Divas are fulfilling their mission and that they had fun at their last meeting.

Trustee Burch-Parks

The lights have been purchase to light up the flagpoles.

Tried to stake out for the trenching but it was too rainy.

Contractor has been hired to do the under ground work.

The Girl Scouts will be helping to plant flowers and ground cover at Knox.

Supervisor Tinerella gave Trustee Burch a list of things that need to be attended to at the Parks.

Do to the inclement weather a lot of the projects that were voted in last month are still in the process of being accomplished.

Supervisor Tinerella stated that the new play equipment that was voted on last month will be here in two weeks.

Trustee Black stated as long as we were discussing Parks, since there seems to be an abundance of play equipment at Knox Park. It would be beneficial to put the equipment at Knigge Park. Supervisor Tinerella stated that the ground at Knigge is not prepared for this play equipment. This suggestion will be tabled to the Park Committee.

Department Heads

Senior Director-Sue Neuschel-Report Will be attached to back of the minutes.

Two new items: The Red Hat Society-The Ela Divas and am hoping to be in the Alpine Parade and we have 46 divas and a waiting list of 8.

Working on a hearing lost support group with Barrington Woods.

Susan Kostner and Sue Neuschel are also exploring an outreach program for the frailer seniors.

At this time the Senior Director discussed Agenda item 13:

13. Community Special Event-consideration and possible action to approve an event for August with a historic theme and scholarships awards.

This concept is to highlight Ela Township and it helps families with scholarships towards college and highlights the history so it is educational and also it is just plain fun.

This is a two day event.

Saturday August 28th will be a family Historic Scavenger Hunt with prizes of \$300, \$150 and \$100.

Sunday August 29th will be a Brit Beat, Beatles Tribute Concert in the gym at the Folgia YMCA at 5:30p.m.

Trying to create a pattern so that people will expect these programs one in the Winter and one in the Summer.

Trustee Sullivan's motion to approve \$3000.00 for the Community Event (The Way We Were) on August 28th and 29th, seconded by Trustee Knudtson. Roll Call: Trustee Sullivan, Knudtson, Burch, Black and Supervisor Tinerella all voted aye and the motion carried 5 to 0.

Social Worker- Susan Kostner

Susan Kostner stated that she was happy to be on board at Ela Township as the new Social Worker. She has been in contact with the local schools, YMCA, and with the seniors at the Senior Center and once she gets her business cards she will be contacting the police and the Hospitals.

Trustee Knudtson-Social Agency Report

He had a summary of all the talks on the budget which he hoped will be approve later on the agenda. The budget includes the changes that were implemented through the Social Agency committee to eliminate certain charitable donations that were given and decrease our budget without decreasing any of the services that are focused on Ela Township residents. We have been able to take the 2004/05 budget and cut it just about in half from \$365,100 to \$176,000. He believed without decreasing any specific services to any Ela Township residents. The Township had been able to add a Township Social Worker Susan Kostner and have also been able to do a one time capital expense to for the Lake Zurich Rural Fire department by adding the defibrillators and he anticipated that by next year if Township keeps this general program that Township will be able to decrease the budget even further next year and continue to serve Township residents.

Supervisor Tinerella added that the budget that is going to be passed has \$ 30,000 for Social agencies funding and last year it was \$142,000 and again it is because the Board is taking a more straight delivery of Township services to the public and that is why we have a Social Worker.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. FY04/05 Appropriation Ordinance – finance committee recommends the Board approves the Budget as finalized at the 6/10/04 committee meeting Consideration and possible action to adopt appropriation ordinance for the General Town Fund #2004-11

The revenue for the year will be \$3,870,720,20. Expenses will be 5,758,725,000
And this incorporates the changes recommended by the Finance Committee (\$5000.00 to the explorers for safety equipment).

Trustee Knudtson's motion to adopt (General Town Fund-Appropriation Ordinance #2004-11) the budget for 2004/05 as listed above, seconded by Supervisor Tinerella. Roll Call: Trustees Knudtson, Black, Sullivan and Burch all voted aye and the motion carried 4 to 1. Supervisor Tinerella voted nay.

Trustee Black had this statement to add to the minutes:

“As I sit on this Board as an advocate for Ela Township, as a Township Trustees our responsibility is to make sure that Township needs are being met. We’re not advocates for social agencies, sport teams, cultural arts, or the many other worthwhile organizations that make our community vibrant and a great place to live. Those organizations have their own leaders and Board members and I admire them for being such strong advocates for the valuable causes in which they believe. I wish every organization well and I hope for their success. Privately, I support many of them. But as an Ela Township Board Member I cannot provide financial support being requested because there on Township needs that must be met first.

Looking ahead, we must plan for the future and make plans and take action in anticipation of the lease at the YMCA coming to an end. I believe it is better to own than to rent, and that if we do not take certain steps now, land in the Township will become scarce and much more expensive to buy. Buying land and preparing to construct the facility to meet the future needs of our Township will require that most of our resources be devoted to this purpose.

Achieving the goal of acquiring land and developing it while maintaining our core functions such as Highway Department, Assessor’s office and our Youth and Senior programs will consume all our revenue. As much as we may wish to help outside agencies, we cannot do so without spending more than we take in.

We are not the only Township to cut back some Townships have completely eliminated all funding.”

9. Township Social Worker-identify and discuss measurable outcomes to provide direction for overall plan development of social services for residents.

Trustee Black had an answer for this agenda item.

The Social worker was hired to develop a program for the Township.

1. She has to get settled in her new job.
2. She is the expert.
3. She will assess the Township after she has had time to talk to the appropriate people
4. She will decide what brochures to create.
5. She will report her progress to Board regularly.
6. Once the program is developed the Board can then discuss appropriate performance measures.

Trustee Black moved to table this Agenda item until later in the year and to give Ela Township Social Worker a chance to do her job.

Supervisor Tinerella stated she received a letter from the YMCA, and they are requesting a letter from the whole Board and not just Trustee Black. The YMCA would like this letter so keys can be changed on the doors.

Trustee Black repeated a statement that she had read at the last Board Meeting: I have already written a letter to Gil Fonger and the YMCA in response to his request of May 18th, 2004 to present to the YMCA Board.

Gil Fonger requested that the Township provide a letter authorizing the Social Worker to be in one of the offices formerly occupied by OMNI. Trustee Black has already checked with Mr. Meyer, Executive Director of Omni regarding office space at YMCA. Mr. Meyer

advised Trustee Black there is one office containing a desk available for the Social Worker. Trustee Black will continue to make necessary arrangements for the Social Worker in that space.

Trustee Black stated that she was informed by the executive Director of the YMCA that when he called the Township Supervisor to confirm what was written in the letter, he was told that the Board did not know about the letter and she would not confirm that the Board was aware of the letter to YMCA was needed. For that reason we now must take time at this Board meeting to reconfirm what was already done. Trustee Black asked that the Board direct the Supervisor to contact the Executive Director of the Folgia YMCA to tell him that my letter of May 18, 2004 is sufficient.

No motion was needed it was decided that Trustee Black would follow up on the letter to the YMCA Executive Director and she would supply copies of the letter to the Board also.

NEW BUSINESS

10. Prevailing Wages-Adoption of Road Ordinance #2004-9 and #2004-10 GTF.

Trustee Burch's motion to adopt the Prevailing Wages Road Ordinance #2004-9 and General Town Fund Ordinance 2004-10, seconded by Supervisor Tinerella. Roll Call: Trustees Burch, Black, Knudtson, Sullivan and Supervisor Tinerella all voted aye and the motion carried 5 to 0.

11. Township's Financial Audit for FY03/04-review highlights of last year's spending and discuss management letter

Supervisor stated on the Audit that the auditors would like more details on the billings from the Highway Department to other villages and other internal department within the Township. If you would take a copy of the invoice on what was done for the Assessor road work versus what we do for the bus there is a big difference. And what is given to the Township's Financial department for billings to other villages does not detail what work was done and it just appears to be a statement.

12. Summer Newsletter-consideration and possible action to approve the content and the layout go to print by June 14th, 2004.

Trustee Black is to work with Nora and get the PDF to the Board members for approval and off to the publisher.

14. Health Reimbursement Arrangement Plan- Approval of resolution #2004-2

Trustee Knudtson's motion to adopt Resolution #2004-2, seconded by Supervisor Tinerella. Roll Call: Trustees Knudtson, Black, Burch, Sullivan and Supervisor Tinerella all voted aye and the motion carried 5 to 0.

16. Approval of Settlement and Release Agreement with Dartmoor Homes Acquisition and Lake Zurich One

Supervisor's Tinerella's motion to approve the Settlement Agreement with Dartmoor Homes, seconded by Trustee Burch. Roll Call: Supervisor Tinerella, Trustees Burch, Knudtson and Sullivan all voted aye and the motion carried 4 to 1. Trustee Black voted nay because of wording of the Agreement.

17th Executive Session Meeting Minutes of May 3rd and 13th, 2004-consideration to approve and action on closed executive sessions items.

No action was needed on this agenda item.

18th Adjournment

At 9:50p.m a motion was made to adjourn and the majority of the Board voted aye and the motion carried.

LUCY PROUTY ELA TOWNSHIP CLERK

I have supplied the board with additional info so that we may discuss the bussing in the proper prospective. You will find in these papers, that the supervisor did not create an accurate picture of the past bus service and the present. She has repeatedly stated that is costing more money to bus fewer people. This is not the case.

The Bus service is running well. We have CUT the budget by 20%. We are doing maintenance in house, which has reduced our costs by \$12,000 per year. In December we received 2 new replacement buses from PACE.

Let me start this with some background. Due to the problems the bus drivers had with the supervisor's office, I took over the bus service- on 2/03 from the supervisor's control. This was 40% of the supervisor's workload. I did not receive any additional money for taking on this job and the supervisor continues to receive the same pay for 40% less work. The change in leadership was to bail out the supervisor and all the problems she had created. One of the problems was hiring an illegal driver for the Christmas holidays so that she could have a regular driver sit home and not collect holiday pay. This was a unanimous vote by 4 trustees and the supervisor. At that February meeting there were a number of problems that were discussed. Overtime was a big discussion at that meeting as it is today. I was told that the supervisor and her staff would help in the transfer of power and all the paper work that PACE requires. We received % hour of Nora's time and there was no real transition. There continues to be bitter feeling from the supervisor's office.

Conditions of the buses prior:

1. All buses were in poor condition.
2. Two buses had to have their engine heaters plugged-in so that they would start even though they were in a heated garage. These buses needed glow plug for over a year but the mechanics were told that the township did not have the money to repair them. The result of not repairing the glow plug put a strain on other systems resulting in more repairs.
3. One bus driver reported for over 6months that the tires were bald. The driver was again told that there was no money. This allows senior citizens, and handicap individuals to be transported unsafely in the winter.
4. Ela bus #3 was in such poor shape I took the bus out of service as soon as I realized how grossly unsafe it was being used. The electrical system was poor, the drivers had to put a stick between the accelerator and the seat, walk around the bus to operate the chair lift. The drivers had to do this because the electrical was not working to idle up the bus to operate the chair lift properly. The previous board discussed a replacement bus and the Supervisor Tinerella knew of this and never put it in her budget.

The buses were all brought up to safety standard within a month. Last year we purchased a replacement for ELA #3. It took us 4 months before we could sort through all the paperwork and figure out by ourselves how to do all the reports for PACE, etc. We found out during this time that the reports were being done incorrectly by the supervisor's office for the past 2 years. A serious problem was under reporting revenue hours. *This shorted the township money from PACE's grant.*

Addressing the Supervisor's Concerns:

#1. The supervisor states that the ridership is down. I don't know where she is getting this. From the PACE reports, which she has copies of these reports, ridership for one way trip have gone from 28,835 in 2001, 28,611 in 2002 (these under Supervisor Tinerella) to 29,817 in 2003. This is up from 2002 to 2003 by 1,206 rides.

#2. Comparing the revenue hours reported to PACE, on the road with passengers yearly totals have increase from 4,302 % in 2001, to 4,354 in 2002(these under Supervisor Tinerella) to 5,313 in 2003. This is up from 2003 to 2004 by 959 hours.

Question: How can the ridership be decreasing when we bus 1,206 more rides and the buses were on the road 959 additional hours?

#3. The supervisor states the revenue was down. The only response to this is that the budget that was turned into PACE for 2003 was handled by the supervisor's office. When our office budgeted for 2004, after controlling the buses for 3 months, we increased a number of line items because I felt they were low for 2003. PACE bases the grant money on PACE's budget form we submit.

This may be the reason why some of the revenue is down. The other reason why revenue is down and costs are up is that the passengers are frequently making up to 5 stops on a \$2.00 ride. Maybe we should look at making each stop \$1.00 or \$.so per additional stop. Five stops under the first plan would be \$5.00. Under the second plan it would be \$3.50. This is not my decision. The Board must handle this.

Employees:

The supervisor has stated that Pam Saubert is dispatching the buses poorly. If that is the case, how could we have bused 1,206 more rides last year? Currently, in the past 3 weeks, we have turned down 50 requests for rides because the buses are all full. That is in part because we are making 4-5 stop per rider.

Joanne Younger has many jobs. Other than answer the phone, she dispatches, does the monthly report to PACE, and keeps all records for the buses. She has a full 3 hours a day for the bus work. Pam oversees the bus reports to PACE but does not fill them out. Pam Saulbert spends most of her day driving. This position has been reduced from full-time to part-time in the past 4 months, thus saving the township money.

The supervisor states that the bus service should have only part time drivers. We cannot get qualified part-time drivers to work 2 to 3 days a week.. The supervisor knows this from the time she ran the service. The school district cannot fill their positions and their starting pay is more with benefits than our full-time employees. If the board decides to hire part-timers, we would need 6 to 8 drivers. There would be a cost to qualify them as well as have CDL's, going to PACE schools with physical and drug testing. This would not be cost effective as well as the turn over of employees would be great. It takes a special talent to deal the individuals that ride our buses and we currently have a great bunch of drivers. I also know that 4 of the current drivers would quit if their time were cut.

NOTE: We have a part-time driver that will be retiring in August and will not replace him thus cutting cost.

Overtime Concerns:

Overtime for the first four months of this year are down compared to the same period last year. We have been working hard to cut overtime. The supervisor states that over time and driver's salaries were up by 20% from the previous year. This is probably true due to the increase in riders and revenue hours. When I took this job over from the supervisor, I learned from PACE that the correct way to report revenue hours is that if the driver is waiting for a passenger to be picked up, he is to be on the dock and is responsible for that passenger and cannot leave. The supervisor's office did not follow proper procedure. The supervisor made the driver go off the clock if they were waiting for a passenger for 15 minutes or more. The supervisor also did not report the correct revenue hours to PACE on her monthly report. Under the state labor laws, we are liable to pay our employees for the hours they worked. If PACE says the driver is on the clock because he is responsible for the passenger then how can the township not pay the employee? This is what the supervisor did and why the hours for overtime have gone up. I am paying the employees according to the law.

Pam Saubert worked in the office for the first 6 weeks with Lesley Roll to meet with PACE and their representatives. This was to insure that the bus reports would be correct. During this time an additional driver had to be employed to cover Pam route. It was at this time PACE became aware that the last two years, the reports were not properly filled out and were not completed on time. This added employee would have contributed to the increase to the driver's salaries for 2003. This took six week because Pam and Lesley had never done the reports before and there was no cooperation from the supervisor's office.

Summary:

The ridership has continued to increase. It is currently running at top capacity. We are turning residents away. The costs to bus have risen. Fuel, additional stops per rider, and correctly reporting moneys earned to employees have all added to the cost. Under my supervision, the budget has decreased by 20% even with the above increases.

Overtime has continued to be a topic with the supervisor yet unless the hours of service are reduced, overtime will continue. This is a great service with great drivers. Instead of continuing to go over the same topics time and time again, it would be more efficient to consider a new bus to help more people. This is the real dilemma for the board especially when considering the youth program is funded at \$40,000 per school year for an average of 2 youths. When 8 pizzas ate bought and 2 youth show up, I wonder where the priorities are for the board. A bus service that works - serving 150 rides per day or a youth program that services 2 youths a day.

If you want me to run this service like it was run by Supervisor Tinerella, I will give you my resignation tomorrow.

Bill Kruckenberg